[31st July 1933

XI.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920, FOR A CERTAIN PURPOSE (BILL No. 9 OF 1933)[a].

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I introduce a Bill further to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Clauses 1, 2 and 3 are for the vote of the House."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I speak on the clauses now?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If the hon. Member has got any definite amendments to the clauses, or if he is opposing any of the clauses, he can speak now. Otherwise, I am afraid he will not be in order."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I speak on the motion?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If the hon. Member wants to make any suggestions, he can make them on the motion that the Bill be passed into law.

"I will now put clauses 1, 2 and 3 for the vote of the House."

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 were put and carried.

The preamble was put and carried.

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I beg to move that the Bill be passed into law."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—"I second it."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, I rise to oppose the motion made by the hon. the Chief Minister. If I do so, I must not be misunderstood as being opposed to the principle underlying the Bill. I only want to elicit some information from the Government.

On such questions as the one now before us, it is usual for the Government to come forward and say at every stage that they have asked for reports from the Collectors to ascertain whether the country is really prepared for such reform. I want to know whether in this case the Government have ascertained the views of the Collectors and if so I should like to know what their views are and whether they have reported in favour of this amendment. Only this morning, in reply to a question on the subject of throwing open coffee-hotels in Salem to all classes, the hon. Minister said that they referred the matter to the Collector and he reported adversely and on the basis of the report they rescinded the resolution of the Municipal Council of the town on the subject. I therefore want to know definitely from the Chief Minister

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 18th July 1933.

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whether on this question also he has ascertained the views of the Collectors of the districts and found that the public opinion was in favour of such a reform."

* The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Sir, although it is not specifically stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the Government have satisfied themselves that the time is now ripe for bringing the Local Boards Act into line with the District Municipalities Act. No doubt, hon. Members are aware that in the past several attempts were made to enact a provision similar to the one contained in the Bill before us but all those attempts were not successful. As regards consultation with the Collectors, I may state for the information of my hon. Friend that this subject was discussed at the Collectors' Conference at Ootacamund. The Government have satisfied themselves that public opinion is now ripe for the introduction of such a measure."

The question that the Bill be passed into law was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

The House adjourned till 11 a.m. on Tuesday, 1st August 1933.

XII.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

a 1. *G.O. No.* 1241, *L. & M., dated* 28*th March* 1933, *fixing the term of members of district and taluk boards in Kistna district.*

b 2. *G.O. No.* 311, *Development, dated* 11*th March* 1933, *recording the Audit Report on the accounts of the Russellkonda Saw Mills for the year* 1931–32.

b 3. *G.O. No.* 319, *Development, dated* 14*th March* 1933, *recording the Audit Report on the accounts of the Chenat Nair Exploitation Division for the year ending* 31*st March* 1932.

b 4. *Proceedings of the sixth meeting of the Finance Committee, dated* 10*th March* 1933.

b 5. *G.O. No.* 297, *Development, dated* 9*th March* 1933, *recording the Audit Report on the accounts of the Forest Utilization Division for the year ending* 31*st March* 1932.

a 6. *Notification regarding the supersession of the Bezwada Municipal Council.*

a 7. *G.O. No.* 1415, *L. & M., dated* 10*th April* 1933, *fixing the date of retirement of members of certain panchayats.*

a 8. *G.O. No.* 1475, *L. & M., dated* 17*th April* 1933, *notifying the constitution of certain taluk boards in the Kistna district.*

b 9. *G.O. No.* 320, *Finance, dated* 1st *May* 1933, *regarding the constitution of Public Accounts and Finance Committees for* 1933–34.

a 10. *G.O. No.* 1476, *L. & M., dated* 17*th April* 1933, *extending the term of members of district and taluk boards in Kistna district up to* 25*th June* 1933.

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a Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

b Printed separately.